

Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Honorees Named for Newark Museum Legacy Gala *Saturday, May 12, 2018*

NEWARK: Newark Mayor Ras J. Baraka; Newark Council President Mildred C. Crump and the Newark Municipal Council; pioneering architectural firm Michael Graves and Associates; and United Airlines will be honored at the Newark Museum's 2018 Legacy Gala on Saturday, May 12 for their long-time support of the Museum.

- Mayor Baraka, and Councilwoman Crump and the Newark Municipal Council will be presented with the Newark Museum's highest honor, the 2018 *Louis Bamberger Medal for Meritorious Service* in recognition of the instrumental roles they played in the continued growth of the city.

Mayor Baraka is the 40th mayor of Newark and was sworn in July 2014. He was listed in *The Nation's* 2015 "Most Valuable Progressives" as "Most Valuable Mayor," *Ebony Magazine's* "Power 100" and on the front cover of *The New York Times* for "defying expectations" during his first year-and-a-half in office. Former President Barack Obama announced his sweeping plan for criminal justice reform with Mayor Baraka while visiting a Newark reentry center.

The Newark Municipal Council, led by Council President Crump, is comprised of civic leaders elected on a nonpartisan basis. The 9 members of the Council represent each of the 5 wards of the city, with 4 additional members participating on an at-large basis. Together, Mayor Baraka and the Newark Municipal Council demonstrate the kind of leadership the Museum's founder, John Cotton Dana would have greatly admired, spearheading corporate, university, and retail growth, and most excitingly, returning Newark Public Schools to the city's operational control.

- Michael Graves and Associates will receive the *John Cotton Dana Commemorative Medal Award*, in recognition of its longtime partnership with the Newark Museum, most recently with the revitalization efforts that included the reopening of the Washington Street doors after two decades. World-renowned architect Michael Graves, who was personally involved with the Museum from his first meeting with director Sam Miller in 1967 and most recently designed the Horizon Plaza, died in 2015, just as the project was taking form.
- United Airlines will be honored with the Distinguished Community Partner Award. As the anchor airline located at Newark Liberty International Airport, United Airlines is corporate and philanthropic leader in Newark and throughout New Jersey, with a special emphasis on cultural institutions. Monica Slater Stokes, Managing Director, Corporate & Government Affairs for United, leads the company's public policy and community affairs efforts and is a devoted Newark Museum Trustee. United has been a key partner of the Museum through its varied support of exhibitions, public and educational programs, and general fundraising efforts.

The Newark Museum is one of the most influential museums in the country, with the *Legacy Gala* as its major fundraising event. The Museum's collections rank as the 12th largest in the nation, with nearly 300,000 objects representing American art, Decorative arts, the arts of Asia, Africa, Native America, ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome, and the natural sciences. The Gala also recognizes the Museum's role as a national leader in museum education. The event provides essential support for the Museum's education initiatives that serve more than 75,000 school children and thousands of families each year.

For further information on the Newark Museum Legacy Gala, call 973-596-6579 or visit www.newarkmuseum.org.

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